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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/805,808	03/13/2001	Reiner Kraft	ARC920000147US1	6210

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FAIRFIELD, CT 06824

EXAMINER

THAI, HANH B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 04/02/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/805,808

Applicant(s)

KRAFT ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh B Thai

Art Unit

2171

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 10-13 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 14-20 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 6-9, 21 and 23 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 July 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

This is in response to the Application filed March 13, 2001 in which claims 1-23 are presented for examination.

### **DETAILED ACTION**

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 14-20 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6,314,420) in view of Meyerzon et al. (U. S. Patent no. 6,199,081).

1. Regarding claims 1, 14, 20 and 22 Lang discloses a system for associating a credibility rating with a document located in an online search comprising:

- an information gathering device (16, Fig. 1, Lang) adapted to retrieve the document from an information source (11 and 13, Fig. 1, Lang).
- an information analysis device (17 and 35, Fig. 1, Lang) adapted to determine an online id associated with the document (see col. 6, line 59 to col. 7, line 8 and col. 12, lines 39-45, Lang); and
- a credibility rating system (400, Fig. 6, Lang) adapted to provide the credibility rating (see Fig. 6 and col. 14, lines 26-67, Lang)

Lang, however, does not explicitly disclose "the credibility rating associated with the online ID". Meyerzon, on the other hand, discloses this limitation (see col. 3, lines 1-16,

Meyerzon). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Land to include an online ID in order to identify meta-data in the document and retrieve the web document. The motivation of doing so would have been to retrieve the contents of documents from the web pages.

2. Regarding claim 2, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses a searchable index adapted to store an association of the credibility rating of the online id with the document, wherein the association is accessible by a search engine (see col. 11, lines 51-55, Lang).

3. Regarding claim 3, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses the mapping of a unique identifier associated with the document to the associated credibility rating (see col. 19, lines 9-19, Lang).

4. Regarding claim 4, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses the document is a web page and the web page has a unique identifier (col. 3, lines 7-14, Meyerzon) comprising a uniform resource locator (see col. 5, lines 39-57, Meyerzon).

5. Regarding claim 5, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses that the online search is an Internet search and the document is retrieved from the Internet (see abstract of Meyerzon).

6. Regarding claim 15, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses the step of determining an online id of a document comprises the step of extracting an author information code from a header tag of an HTML document (see col. 3, lines 1-16, Meyerzon).

7. Regarding claim 16, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses the step of developing a credibility rating for an online id, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving an input from the online id related to a credibility profile for the online id (11 and 13, Fig.1, Lang); validating the input by determining a weight of the input (320,330 and 345,

Fig. 5, and col. 15, lines 37-64, Lang); assigning the credibility rating to the online id (col. 15, lines 29-32, Lang); and storing the credibility rating in a searchable index (see col. 12, lines 27-32, Lang).

8. Regarding claim 17, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses the step of integrating the credibility rating vector into a search engine using a ranking algorithm (see col. 6, lines 23-25 and col. 13, line 66 to col. 14, line 10, Lang).

9. Regarding claim 18, Lang/Meyerzon combination does not explicitly disclose the step of reordering a search result list, but it is well known to rearrange the search result list because it would prove the flexibility of the searching system.

10. Regarding claim 19, Lang/Meyerzon combination further discloses the step of displaying a symbol on the information indicating the quality rating to the user (see 235, Fig. 4 and col. 11, line 64 to col. 12, line 5, Lang).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

11. Claims 10-13 are allowed over the prior art of record.

12. Claims 6-9, 21 and 23 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

13. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claims 6-9, 21 and 23, the prior art fails to disclose or suggest the claimed provision verify and allow an owner of the online id to input information into the credibility rating system that can be validated and write the information into a credibility database as claimed in conjunction with remaining claims provisions.


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*Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B Thai whose telephone number is 703-305-4883. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic can be reached on 703-308-1436. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-9099 for regular communications and 703-746-7240 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

Hanh Thai   
Art Unit 2171  
March 26, 2003

  
SAFET METJAHIC  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100